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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

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COUNTRY

East Germany

DATE DISTR. 5 October 1954

SUBJECT

Military Activity in the Dessau-Leipzig Area

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ACQUIRED**

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. On 10 July 1954, the bulk of the engineer units stationed in the training area south east of Rossau left toward Leipzig via Dessau. Thirty-five trucks with TMP-type pontoons, 10 trucks with other bridge building equipment, 20 three-axle DUKW-type amphibious vehicles, 6 two-axle amphibious vehicles, 3 tank trucks, 8 jeeps and 2 field kitchens were observed. [redacted]

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_____ The remaining engineer units withdrew to the Coswig area because of high water. 1

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2. The following observations were made at the Leipzig-Rueckmarsdorf railroad station:

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9 July. At 1300, a train with 4 M-13 rocket launchers, 20 trucks and 120 to 150 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia left toward Leipzig. 2

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14 July. At 1700, 10 boxcars and 20 flatcars with sideracks were ready for loading. Baggage and bedsteads were hauled to the station by trucks

15 July. Between 0900 and 1500, the following troops and materiel were entrained: 8 heavy tanks

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T-34 command tank without gun, about 300 soldiers and 20 to 30 trucks

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The 8 heavy tanks had T-34 chassis with 5 large bogie wheels; the were lower than a T-34, and had a gun of a larger caliber with a muzzle brake. 4

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3. On 13 July, 12 amphibious vehicles, presumably of type DUKW, were seen in the Flak Kaserne in Leipzig-Schossau (8241). On 14 July, the vehicles were no longer observed after the recession of the high water. Since they were not observed at the railroad station, it was assumed that they left by road.¹ On 14 July, armored personnel carriers [] entered the installation. On 17 July, the installation was occupied by an estimated 200 soldiers of a rear detail. 3 25X1
4. At 2000 on 13 July, 15 to 20 DUKW-type amphibious vehicles were seen in the Flak Kaserne in Leipzig-Schossau. 1
1. [] Comment. The information indicates that the 36th Pan Bridge Regt of the GSPG was employed in the Leipzig area during the high water. 25X1
2. [] Comment. The train probably carried elements of the 94th Gds RL Regt of the XXIX Gds Mtz Rifle Corps stationed there. Since, on 17 July, the installation was occupied by only 200 soldiers, the entire regiment presumably transferred to a training area in Thuringia. 25X1
3. [] Comment. [] units of the 8th Gds Mech Div were continually rotated between the Koenigsbrunn training area and the posts between 5 and 17 July.
4. [] Comment. Provided that the description of the heavy tanks is correct, it may be inferred that T-54 tanks were observed. The same tanks, particularly [], were observed on 29 and 30 June by two sources who reported them as JS tanks. []

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